

Amendment No. 1 to SB2634

Watson  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 2634**

**House Bill No. 2120\***

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1.

(a) As used in this section, "food desert relief enterprise" means a supermarket or grocery retailer that operates on a self-service basis, having at least fifty percent (50%) of revenue derived from the sale of groceries, produce, meat, baked goods, or dairy products, or a farmers market, in low-income, underserved areas of this state.

(b) The Tennessee Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) is directed to perform a study of the potential, overall effects of creating a grant and loan program administered by the department of economic and community development to encourage the financing and development of food desert relief enterprises that sell fresh food in low-income, underserved areas of this state. It is the legislative intent that this study be conducted from TACIR's existing resources.

(c) The study shall include the benefits and costs of creating a special reserve fund in the state treasury to be known as the "Fresh Food Financing Fund" into which the revenue generated from six-hundred twenty-five ten thousandths percent (.0625%) of the rate of tax imposed by § 67-6-228(a) on retail sales of sugar-sweetened beverages is deposited for the sole use by the department to fund grants and loans awarded under the program.

(d) All appropriate state agencies and departments shall provide assistance to TACIR upon the request of its executive director. TACIR shall seek input from representatives of the supermarket and grocery retailer industry and the department.

**Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee 1**

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(e) TACIR shall submit a report disclosing the findings of the study and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the state and local government committee of the senate, the state government committee of the house of representatives, and the local government committee of the house of representatives no later than February 1, 2019.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.